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DA 11-1433 Released August 19, 2011

FCC's PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU TO HOLD WORKSHOP/WEBINAR ON PROPOSED EXTENSION OF OUTAGE REPORTING TO INTERCONNECTED VOIP AND BROADBAND ISPS AND NETWORK RELIABILITY AND CONTINUITY

On September 8, 2011, from 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., the Federal Communications Commission's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau will hold a workshop and webinar in the Commission Meeting Room (TW-C305) to discuss issues pending in two open FCC proceedings.

The first two panels of the workshop will address the proposed extension of outage reporting to interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) service providers and broadband Internet service providers (ISPs), which is the subject of Docket No. 11-82. Panelists will examine the various ways in which public safety agencies and the critical infrastructure industries rely on communications, and how outages of interconnected VoIP and broadband Internet service providers could affect their vital work. The discussion will also explore the processes and methods by which information about outages can be made available to the FCC so as to minimize burden on filers, while ensuring the filing of complete information. The workshop also will examine metrics and thresholds that have been proposed as triggers for outage reporting. The Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and other filings in that proceeding are available at http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?z=dgvzu&name=11-82.

The final panel of the workshop will address the issues regarding the reliability and continuity of communications networks, including broadband, which are raised in Docket No. 11-60. The discussion will examine more generally what the FCC's role has been and should be in promoting reliability, resiliency and continuity of communications services; explore issues of ensuring continuity of communications services during major disasters; and examine the state of reliability and resiliency standards for broadband communications networks services. The Commission's Notice of Inquiry and other filings in that proceeding are available at

http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs/proceeding/view?z=lti2q&name=11-60.

The workshop will be open to the public; however, admittance will be limited to the seating available. Individuals who are interested in attending this event in person or via WebEx must pre-register on-line at http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/event-registration.html. Those who pre-register will be asked to provide their name, title, organization affiliation, and contact information. Individuals may also contact Deandrea Wilson at Deandrea. Wilson@fcc.gov or via phone at 202-418-0703, regarding pre-registration. The deadline for pre-registration is Tuesday, September 6, 2011.

Audio/video coverage of the meeting will be broadcast live with open captioning over the Internet from the FCC's web page at www.fcc.gov/live. The FCC's webcast is free to the public. Those who watch the live video stream of the event may e-mail event-related questions to livequestions@fcc.gov. Depending on the volume of questions and time constraints, the panel moderators will work to respond to as many questions as possible during the workshop.

Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Please include a description of the accommodation you will need. Individuals making such requests must include their contact information should FCC staff need to contact them for more information. Requests should be made as early as possible. Please send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau: 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

For additional information about the meeting, please contact Gregory Intoccia at (202) 418-1470 or by e-mail: gregory.intoccia@fcc.gov. News Media contact: Lauren Kravetz, (202) 418-7944 or lauren.kravetz@fcc.gov.